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them, catch on the bait-hooks *ff*; the flap *j* is shown as held up by its roller *g*, in the angle or crook of the bait-hook; *n n* the two baits; the flap *i i* is shown in the act of inclining downwards, the animal having pulled the bait-hook from the roller *g*, and having slipped into the receptacle *o o*, which is partly filled with water; the balance-weight *l* then brings it up again, and re-sets it; *p p* parts of inclined planes for the animals to ascend by, when the situation does not allow the cistern to be sunk, so as to bring the floor on a level with the ground. The trap merely rests on the receptacle *o*, by the ledges *q q*; *r r* bent pieces of tin, which narrow the space on the bar *e*, and oblige the bait-hook to fall within the range of the roller *g*, and leave nothing for the claws of the animal to lay hold of at the moment of falling.

No. XI.

IMPROVED DEAD EYES.

The SILVER VULCAN MEDAL was this session presented to Mr. EDWARD CAREY, of Bristol, for his improved Dead Eyes for Shipping. The following communication has been received from him, and a model of his invention has been placed in the Society's repository.

SIR, Bristol, April 19, 1825.

OBSERVING the very awkward manner in which they set up our men-of-war's lower and topmast shrouds, which

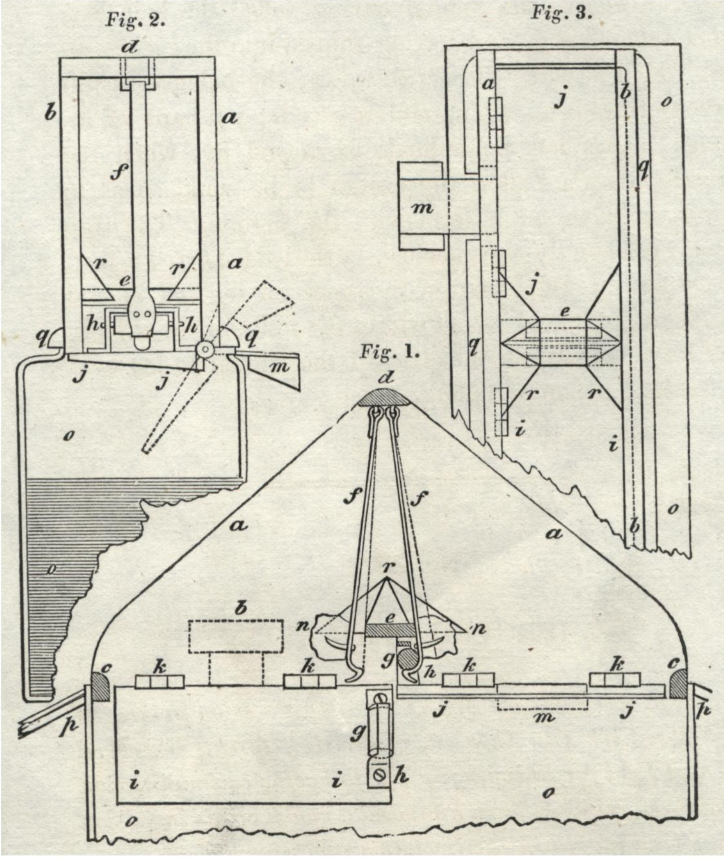

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 1.

strains the lanyards to pieces, often breaking them, and rendering the same lanyards almost useless for a second time; and with what difficulty the lanyards render over the rough grain of the elm-wood, of which the dead eyes are usually made, in consequence of which the shroud is with great difficulty set up taught, I have made a simple improvement, which I beg leave to lay before the Society for their approval. Half-sheaves of lignum vitæ fixed in the dead-eye will cause the lanyard to render with greater facility than it does at present, and the shroud will be set up in half the time. I have sent a loose half-sheave, to show the manner they are fixed in, by which it will be perceived they cannot come out, for the more pressure there is on them, the faster they are.

I am, Sir,
&c. &c. &c.

A. Aikin, Esq.
Secretary, &c. &c.

EDWARD CAREY,
Surveyor of Shipping.

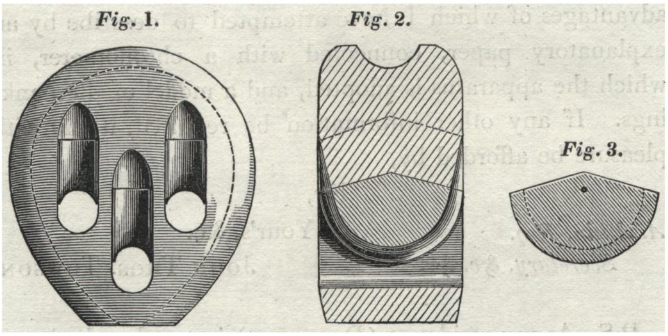

Fig. 1 the dead eyes; fig. 2 a section; and fig. 3 one of the sheaves, formed of pieces of nicely turned lignum vitæ, which is let into each hole, as shown in the section.